

MINUTES
of the
Mental Health Planning Advisory Council
meeting on
October 20, 2004
held at
Southern Nevada Adult Mental
Health Services (SNAMHS)
Building 1, Multipurpose Room
6161 West Charleston Boulevard
Las Vegas, NV 89146-1126

I. CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL, INTRODUCTIONS

Judge W. Cooley, Council Chair, called the meeting to order at 11:45am.

Council Members Present:

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| • Bennett, Bob | • Lovass-Nagy, Chris – NSHD |
| • Cooley, Judge W. | • Richard-Maley, Rebecca – DCFS |
| • Crowe, Kevin, Ed.D. – MHDS | • Romano, Anna |
| • Felesina, Andrea – Nevada Medicaid | • Thomas, Alyce – CAP |
| • Johnson, Rosetta | |

Council Members Absent:

- | | |
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| • Castle, Howard – BVR | • McCabe, Frankie – DOE |
| • Jackson, Barbara – CAP | • Parra, Debra – State Housing |
| • Loftis, Rebecca Ph.D. – DOC | • Rodriquez, Jenita – MHDS |

• Staff and Others in Attendance:

- | | |
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| • Cannizzaro, Michelle – AA | • Lamar, Chris – CAP |
| • Duran, Rena – SNAMHS | • Zeiser, Andrew – Grant Consultant |

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS COUNCIL MEETING

Judge Cooley began the meeting by asking if everyone had a chance to review the past meeting's minutes, and if there were any questions or changes. There were no comments.

MOTION: Made by Kevin Crowe, seconded by Alyce Thomas, to approve the minutes from the August 17, 2004, meeting as submitted.

UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE; MOTION CARRIED.

III. PROGRAM EVALUATION OF FY 2004 SUBGRANTS

Chris Lovass-Nagy provided a report on the organizations that were funded during FY 2004. She began with the Carson City Suicide Prevention Project, run by HealthSmart. The amount funded was \$5,500. The qualitative goal was to provide education about suicide risk and intervention strategies. Brochures were developed as a result. The project was not completed within the subgrant period. Kevin Crowe asked why the classes were not completed on time. Andrew Zeiser said there was an issue with scheduling.

Chris then discussed the Mental Health Association of Greater Nevada, which was awarded \$18,750 for the Leadership Academy Training. The Leadership Academy assisted consumers to take responsibility and make choices that support well-being. Consumers were taught about the history of the consumer movement and various advocacy skills. Twenty-five people were trained and nineteen of these attendees are actively working in the community.

Nevada Health Centers, Inc. was awarded \$5,000 for the Integrated Approach to Health program. A Physician's Assistant from Sierra Family Health provides medical care to consumers at Carson City Mental Health Clinic one day per week. Monitoring was done for the number of patients seen, and indicates the number who do not have insurance and utilize the consumer services subgrant funding to pay for laboratory costs and a portion of the sliding fee scale. Andrew stated that the program represents a economical use of funding of about \$100 per client served.

ReStart was awarded \$14,295 for the Peer Recovery Program. The goal was to provide information about mental illness and recovery to individuals with serious mental illness (SMI). Seven participants completed the twelve-week course. Chris noted that this project demonstrates good outreach and collaboration with community-based organizations.

Judge Cooley suggested that a form be implemented for measuring the progress of these programs. She also thanked Chris and Andrew for the report and asked if this could be done on a routine basis.

Judge Cooley asked for a volunteer to work with Chris on monitoring the subgrants. Andrea Felesina volunteered to head up the committee. Judge Cooley stated that the Council's mission is to be advocates, and to work with different groups and encourage them to make applications for the subgrants. Judge Cooley also asked if Becky Richard-Maley would continue the report on children's mental health. Becky said she would when she had information.

Alyce Thomas then introduced Chris Lamar, who is the newest staff member of the Consumer Assistance Program (CAP).

The Council broke for lunch at 12:15 pm.

The meeting was called back to order at 12:30 pm.

IV. REVIEW OF FY 2004 IMPLEMENTATION REPORT

Andrew Zeiser presented an overview of the current grant funding and discussed possible budget growth expansion in FY 2005. He then reviewed the FY 2004 Implementation Report draft, and went over the previous funding priorities for the Division Mental Health and Developmental Services (MHDS) and the Division of Child and Family Services (DCFS). He also reviewed significant events including MHDS budget growth and the new AVATAR system, which tracks mental health services in Nevada. He also discussed the Child and Family Services Review (CFSR) for DCFS that occurred earlier this year. Andrew then went over the block grant goals and objectives, which include data tables and the yearly performance indicators.

A question was asked about the CFSR. Becky Richard-Maley explained that Nevada was evaluated based on seven systemic factors by the feds, but was not found to be in substantial compliance. However, she explained that no state has been found to be in substantial compliance as a result of the review process, and every state is working on a program improvement plan with the feds. DCFS is currently working on its plan. Becky also mentioned a new federal grant that DCFS received for building mental health infrastructure. Andrea Felesina commented that resources for children need to be improved.

Rosetta Johnson asked how the block grant funding is divided. Andrew said it is based on a 60/40 percent split between DCFS and MHDS, after 5% is deducted for the Council. Andrew said that the split was decided by the Department of Human Resources (DHR), which at the time felt that children's services needed extra funding. Andrew reminded everyone that the Implementation Report is due by December 1, 2004.

V. UPDATE ON COUNCIL BUDGET

Andrew Zeiser explained that a full budget report would be ready for the first Council meeting scheduled in 2005. He then provided a brief budget overview to explain how the consumer services funds were distributed for FY 2005. He said that out of the \$38,400 available, \$11,400 was leftover because not all of the applicants received awards. Judge Cooley asked if the leftover money would go back to the Council. Kevin suggested that the money be put back for Health Smart. Andrew explained that he spoke with Jennifer Kizer, and she said the money would not be made available to the Council because it is being used to move grant expenditures forward by one fiscal year, which was discussed at the March 30, 2004, Council meeting. Therefore, the leftover FY 2004 funds have been moved into FY 2005.

Judge Cooley stated that she had a concern if all of the money leftover was put in the 2005 budget because she had plans for some of the money. Andrew explained that the Council would have to factor the plans into its budget for next year, which will be reviewed and approved at the first meeting in 2005. Judge Cooley agreed this would be a better approach.

VI. EXECUTIVE REPORT

Judge Cooley passed around a proposed Council meeting calendar for 2005. Kevin Crowe stated that the legislative session would take place from February to June. Alyce said that she had travel restrictions due to a Consumer Conference. The Council decided to have the February and May meetings in Carson City, and the July and October meetings in Las Vegas.

Anna Romano asked when the budget deadlines were for the Legislature. Kevin explained MHDS had to submit its budget to the Department of Human Resources (DHR) by August, and then DHR submits its budget to the Governor by November 15, 2004. The final documents go to the Legislature by January 15, 2005. The Legislature has until July to approve the Governor's Budget.

Andrew Zeiser reminded everyone that he would present a Council expenditure report and proposed budget for the February meeting.

VII. SUBCOMMITTEE UPDATES

Judge Cooley asked Rosetta Johnson to give a report on the Nominating Committee. Rosetta explained her participation in the selection and review of the four new recommended members. She then asked Andrew Zeiser for an update on the processing of their applications. Andrew explained that there were four people asked to fill out the applications required by the Governor's Office, but only two replied: Melanie Aragon,

who is a family member of an adult with SMI; and Rene Norris, who is a family member of a child with SED. The applications will be sent to the Governor for processing. This leaves the two consumer positions vacant. Andrew reminded everyone that the Council must maintain the appropriate proportion of consumer representation on the Council, based on federal law.

Alyce Thomas stated that she had some applications that she would like to forward to the Council but she had been asked to review this with the Chair first. Judge Cooley said that the Council members need to work on recruitment in order to fill the two consumer positions, and she asked Alyce to forward the applications to Andrew. Becky Richard-Maley also stated that she may have some applications.

Rosetta asked what the age group is for the applicants. Alyce replied that the ages are eighteen years and older due to liability concerns. However, she suggested that the Council could have a children's committee that would provide youth consumer representation at the Council meetings. Becky said there are outreach groups throughout the state that work with youth. Alyce suggested establishing a subcommittee of youth consumers, ages fourteen to seventeen, that could have a representative that was eighteen or older who could report information back to the Council.

Andrea Felesina said she believes that the Governor would have to give an approval for anyone under the age of eighteen. Becky provided background about the Statewide Youth Advisory Board and Statewide Youth Conference done as part of juvenile justice and child welfare programs.

Judge Cooley asked everyone to be advocates and get all applications in by the end of the year.

Judge Cooley then asked Andrea to give a report on the Bylaw Committee. Andrea gave a report on meeting attendance. She also went over excused absences.

Judge Cooley asked Anna Romano to provide a Legislative Committee report. Anna discussed the work done by the Nevada Mental Health Plan Implementation Commission as a result of Senate Bill (SB) 301 from the 2003 Legislature. This Commission developed a set of recommendations based on the national goals established by the President's New Freedom Commission. She discussed how the Council can work with staff at MHDS to find out about legislative hearings and important bills during the 2005 session.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

Judge Cooley asked if the Council members have any new business to discuss. Alyce Thomas handed out a Consumer Assistance Program (CAP) report. A short discussion followed.

Bob Bennett announced that his new book would be out in two to three weeks and he would give a complementary signed copy to all of the Council members. The book will retail for \$16.95 but Bob hopes to make it available to interested state agencies at a reduced rate of \$12.00. Rosetta asked if he had any book signings coming up. Bob said they would be announced. Judge Cooley congratulated Bob on his book and the Council gave a round of applause for all his hard work.

Bob then spoke on seclusion and restraint. He said the numbers in Nevada show a decrease in incidents. Kevin commented that if the Council would like data concerning Seclusion and Restraint that such data is generally not publicly available but if the MHPAC felt strongly they could request Seclusion and Restraint data request in writing to the Division Administrator. Judge Cooley responded that would be wonderful and reminded everyone they should get approval from the Chair for all MHPAC data requests.

Andrea brought up a concern that the hospitals have only enough beds for medical needs and not for patients with mental illness. She suggested that the Council needs to advocate for more Programs for Assertive Community Treatment (PACT). A discussion followed. Rosetta asked where the Council should address their concerns. Andrea said that she would ask her supervisor or a representative to come to the next meeting to answer anyone's questions. Judge Cooley said that would be fine.

IX. PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comments were made to the Council.

X. ADJOURNMENT

Judge Cooley asked for motion to adjourn.

MOTION: Made by Alyce Thomas, seconded by Bob Bennett.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:30 pm.